IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Timothy A. Gessert) Group Art: 1741 Serial No.: 08/937,721) Examiner: S. Mulpuri Filing Date: September 25, 1997 Title: ION-BEAM TREATMENT TO Atty's Dkt. No.: NREL 96-48 PREPARE SURFACES OF CdŢe₄FILMS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Official Action of March 15, 1999, rejecting the claims in the aboveidentified patent application, applicant respectfully request reconsideration, based upon the amendments hereinafter set forth.

A three month extension is requested, and Applicant authorizes the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge the extension fee in the amount of \$870.00 to Applicant's Deposit

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IN THE CLAIMS

AIMS

<u>wice Amended</u>) A dry process for making a low-resistance electrical contact between a metal and a layer of polycrystalline p-type CdTe surface by ion beam processing comprising:

a) placing a CdS/CdTe device <u>having a polycrystalline p-type CdTe</u> into a chamber and evacuating said chamber to create a vacuum;

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